

Mr. Speaker, Chief Justice William Rehnquist served the people of this country and the court he loved for 33 years. I believe that a bust in the Supreme Court is but a small token of our deep appreciation for his dedication to this country and the rule of law.

HONORING THE INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT OF THE NORTH AMERICAN INTERFRATERNITY CONFERENCE, MR. JAMES R. ESTES

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the work of an outstanding individual, Mr. James R. Estes of Columbia, Missouri as he concludes his second term as the volunteer International President of the North American Interfraternity Conference (NIC). Professionally, Jim is President of Gaslight Gundaker GMAC Real Estate, which is one of the nation's 500 largest real estate firms.

Jim Estes graduated from the University of Missouri, where he was initiated into the Kappa Alpha Order fraternity in 1960. Jim served his chapter as undergraduate president and was also a member of the University of Missouri football and baseball teams. He played in the 1961 Orange Bowl and was an All-Big 8 selection, while his work on the baseball team helped his Missouri Tigers earn three trips to the College World Series.

Jim Estes' commitment to the moral development of young men has extended to working with college fraternities, the organizations that build the character and leadership skills of tens of thousands of college men every year. Mr. Speaker, it is Jim's exceptional work for fraternity men nationwide that I rise to recognize today.

Jim Estes has had an exemplary record of service to Kappa Alpha Order fraternity and the interfraternal world. He served as a province Commander for the State of Missouri and was first elected to the Kappa Alpha Executive Council in 1995 and served as Vice President. In 1997, he was elected to the first of two terms as Knight Commander or National President of Kappa Alpha Order. He has also served as a member of the Kappa Alpha Order Educational Foundation, including two years of service as the Foundation's president.

Jim Estes has not been content to serve just his own brothers for he has had a larger mission of improving the collegiate experience of all men and women who join a college fraternity. For that reason, Jim Estes has served the interfraternal community as well, serving on the board of the North American Interfraternity Conference (NIC) for the past several years, including the past two years as the National President of the NIC. The NIC is the umbrella group for 66 national fraternities that have 350,000 undergraduate members and 4.2 million living alumni worldwide.

Mr. Speaker, it is hard to explain Jim Estes' contribution to the fraternity world without explaining what fraternity life is all about. Nine million Americans are proud fraternity and sorority alumni and their experiences in these organizations helped them become better students and better citizens of our great nation.

While only three percent of the nation's population has been a member of a fraternity or sorority, these organizations are proven leadership laboratories for developing the next generation of American leaders. For proof, you need look no further than this Congress itself, where 155 current Members of the House of Representatives and the Senate are alumni of fraternities and sororities.

College fraternities and sororities are one of the most successful leadership development programs available to college students today, helping members graduate with the management and interpersonal skills needed to excel in today's society. These fraternities are the nation's largest networks of student volunteers, providing 10 million hours of service a year and preparing members for a lifetime of community involvement. Fraternity housing is the largest not-for-profit housing market outside of the host colleges and universities themselves. The 250,000 students living in fraternity housing today at 8,000 chapter houses nationwide have an unparalleled opportunity to live and work together on a daily basis with students from different cultures, religions and life experiences. Fraternities are now the largest, most visible, and most active values-based organizations on college campuses today. The men and women who are fraternity members today learn how to incorporate the principles and values of their organization into their daily lives to form the moral foundation for their future actions.

Jim Estes has served the NIC as President during challenging times and he has helped foster a number of national initiatives to improve the standards that fraternity men live up to in their daily lives on campus. He has continued the NICs fight for freedom of association on campus and he has continued to champion passage of the Collegiate Housing and Infrastructure Act, which today is sponsored by almost 100 of my colleagues in the House. If that bill becomes law, it will allow all student associations on college campuses to use a private market approach to upgrade and replace their facilities in the future, thus making it possible for these student groups to continue to thrive for decades to come.

Mr. Speaker, at the end of April, Mr. Marc Katz of Alpha Epsilon Pi Fraternity will be sworn in as the new National President of the North American Interfraternity Conference. I welcome Mr. Katz and look forward to the opportunity to work with him to improve the fraternal experience for today's college students. As I welcome Mr. Katz to his new position of responsibility, I ask this chamber to join me in recognizing Jim Estes for his outstanding decades of service to the college fraternity world. I know he will continue to be an active and visible part of the fraternity movement in the future, but now is the moment to thank Jim Estes for his dedication and service in leading the fraternal community to better days.

CONGRATULATING DR. JOHN RAY TAITANO ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE GUAM ARMY NATIONAL GUARD, AND COMMEMORATING HIS ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND DEDICATION TO HIS COUNTRY

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my dear friend, Dr. John Ray Taitano on the occasion of his retirement from the Guam Army National Guard after twenty three years of service as a patriot and to express the gratitude and appreciation of the people of Guam and America for his accomplishments and his dedication to his country and the freedoms all Americans enjoy.

Dr. Taitano, even as he completed his college education at the University of Guam in 1968, was ever mindful of his duty to country, and continued his pursuit of a military career through the U.S. Army Engineer's Officer Candidate School at Fort Belvoir, VA, from where he was commissioned a Second Lieutenant and then soon after deployed to Viet Nam where he served from 1971 to 1972. After that deployment and service, Dr. Taitano pursued his lifelong desire to continue serving his people as a doctor of medicine through the University of Hawaii's School of Medicine from where he was the first Chamorro graduate. He soon after returned to Guam to establish, with three fellow Chamorro doctors, the Family Medical Clinic, which eventually became The Doctors' Clinic, one of Guam's premier private medical clinics serving over 15,000 island patients. Today, John Ray Taitano continues to serve The Doctors' Clinic as a staff physician, stockholder and member of its Board of Directors.

Despite his busy schedule at The Doctors' Clinic, Dr. John Ray Taitano continued to serve his community through the years in many ways. As President of the Guam Memorial Hospital Medical Staff and Chairman of the Hospital's Medical Executive Committee; as President of the Guam Medical Society; as President of the Government of Guam's Commission on Licensure; as President of the Guam Heart Association; and as his latest adventure; as President of the Guam Veterans' Advisory Council. But his love for his country, and the men and women who proudly wear its uniforms, continued to motivate him to even greater personal accomplishments.

In 1983, Dr. Taitano was commissioned as a Captain of the Guam Army National Guard and became its first, and only, State Surgeon. He served as the chief advisor to eight (8) Adjutant Generals on all command medical matters and has ensured that all 800 plus personnel are medically qualified for deployment worldwide. He became the Senior Medical Officer of the Command, a position and responsibility he has held since 1997.

In pursuit of the best health for the soldiers under his watch, Dr. Taitano championed elimination of smoking inside all buildings of the Guam National Guard and established the first unit physical training program for MEDCOM, in addition to and apart from the Command PT program.

While serving as the Senior Medical Officer of the Guam Guard, Colonel Taitano attended

the U.S. Army War College where he graduated in June 2001 with a Master of Strategic Studies. The War College has honed to an even keener edge, Colonel Taitano's strategic planning and leadership skills in preparation for assuming positions as a general officer.

Despite already serving his country in the Viet Nam Conflict, for which he received numerous awards and commendations, Dr. Taitano did not shy away from the call to again serve his country in battle. In 2005, Colonel Taitano again responded to the call of duty with service in Operation Iraqi Freedom, fighting alongside our country's soldiers and attending to their medical needs as a Medical Corp Officer with the 199th Troop Medical Clinic of the 256 Brigade Combat Team of the Louisiana Army National Guard. Upon his retirement, many of our island people will look on John Ray Taitano's distinguished career with justified pride. Many of those who call him DOCTOR will be relieved at his retirement from the Guard; and many in the Guard will be saddened that a fellow soldier who championed their health causes has chosen to retire. But in the minds of all of these will always abide that knowledge that John Ray Taitano will forever be an outstanding doctor of medicine and always an untiring and unwavering patriot, soldier and defender of the American way of life. May God Bless Dr. Taitano as we all wish him the best upon retirement with a heartfelt, Si Yu'os Ma'ase.

COMMEMORATING THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MESSIAH FESTIVAL IN LINDSBORG, KANSAS

HON. JERRY MORAN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and commemorate the 125th Messiah Festival in Lindsborg, Kansas. This April, the community of Lindsborg will celebrate Holy Week by performing Handel's "The Messiah." This musical interpretation of the Easter story has been enjoyed in Lindsborg since the late 1800s when local immigrant pioneers first gathered together to perform this historic piece.

Many pioneers settling in the Smoky Valley on the plains of Kansas journeyed far from their homes in Sweden. They sought a better way of life and the choice to practice a religion free from the will of Sweden's state church. These pioneers thrived in their newly adopted Kansas home. They adjusted to a new American way of life, but the citizens of Lindsborg never lost sight of the culture and values that formed their Swedish heritage.

One tradition that has sustained the life of this community through the years is the annual Messiah Festival. In 1881, Reverend Carl Swenson, the founder of Bethany College in Lindsborg, and his wife, Alma, organized the Bethany Oratorio Society in the parsonage of Bethany Lutheran Church. Alma taught the music and English words of "The Messiah" to 40 parishioners. After a winter and spring of instruction, Bethany Lutheran Church began a storied tradition as host to this community celebration marking Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday with beautiful music.

The enterprising spirit and strong Swedish heritage of the early pioneers who began the

Messiah Festival has since led to great cultural and educational additions to the State of Kansas. As the Messiah Festival tradition has grown, so has the town of Lindsborg, and Bethany College. This liberal arts institution has expanded to offer baccalaureate degrees in over thirty fields to an enrollment of 600 full and part-time students from 19 states and 12 countries. The Lindsborg community continues to honor its foundation of cultural expression by hosting art and music festivals and offering unique arts, crafts and import gift shops.

It is with great pleasure that I represent this Kansas community in Congress. Lindsborg demonstrates how collaboration, a rich cultural heritage, and appreciation for beautiful music celebrating the Lord can create a tradition worthy of 125 years of repeating.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing the Lindsborg community for their 125th Anniversary Messiah Festival and for their many contributions to the State of Kansas.

TRIBUTE TO JERRY HOFFMAN

HON. JO ANN DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a constituent of mine, Jerry Hoffman of West Point, Virginia. Born in Ironwood, Michigan, Jerry graduated from Michigan State University. In 1964, he entered the United States Air Force to serve his country. As a Special Agent with the Air Force Office of Special Investigations (AOSI), he was responsible for global counterintelligence operations. Upon retiring from the Air Force in 1984, Jerry continued to serve his country while working for the Central Intelligence Agency. In 1989, he cofounded the private security training company, International Training Inc. (ITI), in West Point, Virginia and served as its president and chief executive officer until 2001. At that time, Jerry was appointed as the president and chief executive officer of ArmorGroup North America, and in 2002 assumed this role at ArmorGroup International.

Jerry is married to Katharine Kropp and has two children, Scott, a Lieutenant Colonel in the United States Air Force, and Tabitha, who owns a Medical Transcription Business. Jerry and Katharine are very active in various charities and organizations throughout Virginia, most notably the American Cancer Society.

Jerry has co-authored two novels, receiving the Edgar Allan Poe special award by the Mystery Writers Association of America in addition to a special research award presented by the United States Air Force Command and Staff College for a study of worldwide international and transnational terrorist groups.

I wish to extend to Jerry Hoffman my sincerest congratulations on his retirement. Both in and out of uniform, he has made a significant contribution to our country, and I am pleased to recognize this special occasion.

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL GOODMAN,
CARE AWARD RECIPIENT

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Michael Goodman, upon receiving the Commonwealth Academy Recognition for Educators (CARE) Award.

The CARE award honors outstanding educators who work to enhance the lives of their students. This year's honorees are recognized for their unrelenting work to enhance the lives of the students they serve. This award is presented by Commonwealth Academy, located in Alexandria, Virginia, and honors those committed to diverse learning throughout the nation. Michael Goodman, an Instructional Technology Coordinator at Kenmore Middle School in Arlington, Virginia, is honored for his work with assisting teachers and students with using technology to learn at Kenmore.

Mr. Goodman has been teaching for over ten years and has won numerous awards for his technology instruction. Because of his vision, many classrooms at Kenmore are "technology rich"—meaning the teacher uses a SMART board and other equipment to tailor instruction to engage and challenge all students. Without Mr. Goodman's exceptional and effort, the teachers would not be able to use the technology to reach students. He has been involved in numerous technology activities and programs. As an organizer of "An Adventure of the American Mind" Library of Congress program at Kenmore, his enthusiasm helped to motivate 54 teachers from Kenmore to complete the entire workshop series last year, and resulted in Kenmore Middle School receiving \$30,000 dollars in technical equipment from the program. Mr. Goodman says of his approach to teaching, "My job as Instructional Technology Coordinator allows me to work with teachers and students bringing in the unique advantages that technology offers to create and simulate activities based on [multiple] intelligences."

Mr. Goodman received his B.S. in Technology Education from Virginia Tech and his master's in Instructional Technology from Towson University. He and his wife, Dedra, have three young sons, Harrison, Xavier, and Remington.

I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding Michael Goodman and congratulating him on this distinguished achievement.

COLLEGE ACCESS AND
OPPORTUNITY ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. EARL POMEROY

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2006

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 609) to amend and extend the Higher Education Act of 1965:

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Chairman, I rise to say that I will be voting against H.R. 609. In this age of rising global competitiveness, graduating from college has never been more important for America's students. However, as